

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 /027 R

DRAFTED BY OPIC/F TPARNELL
APPROVED BY EB/IFD/ OIA:RJSMITH
EB/IFD/OIA:DHSTEBBING

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P 132154Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MASERU PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MBABANE PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 173403

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT OPIC OFFICER TO BLS

1. SUBJECT EMBASSY CONCURRENCE, OPIC INVESTMENT OFFICER TODD PARNELL, WHO HANDLES OPIC FINANCE PROGRAMS, INCLUDING PROMOTIONAL EFFORTS, IN BLS PLANS VISIT MASERU (AUG. 23-25), MBABANE (AUG. 26-29), AND GABORONE (AUG. 30-SEPT. 3). OBJECTIVES OF TRIP INCLUDE REVIEW OF CURRENT INVESTMENT CLIMATE AND PENDING PROJECTS, IDENTIFICATION OF POTENTIAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES, AND GENERAL REINFORCEMENT OF PREVIOUS OPIC INITIATIVES IN THE AREA.

2. LESOTHO - PARNELL MET RECENTLY WITH ROGER GURR, NEW MANAGING DIRECTOR, LNDC, AND BIRNEY STOKES, NEW CHARGE. GURR HAS OFFERED TO WORK CLOSELY WITH OPIC IN SELECTING SPECIFIC POTENTIAL INVESTMENT AREAS AND PROMOTING THESE OPPORTUNITIES TO THE U.S. BUSINESS COMMUNITY. HE WILL ARRANGE A NUMBER OF PRIVATE SECTOR CONTACTS. STOKES HAS OFFERED TO COORDINATE GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS SCHEDULE. APPRECIATE POST SUGGESTIONS AS TO APPROPRIATE APPOINTMENTS.

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PARNELL INTERESTED IN MEETING WITH MONYAKE, PERM. SECT.

PLANNING, WITH WHOM HE HAD DISCUSSIONS DURING JAN. VISIT TO
U.S. REQUEST EMBASSY CONFIRM ACCEPTABILITY OF DATES WITH
GURR.

3. SWAZILAND/BOTSWANA - INTERESTED IN MEETING DEVELOPMENT
BANK, PRIVATE SECTOR REPS AND TOURING THEIR OPERATIONS AS
WELL AS DISCUSSING OPIC PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES WITH
APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. APPRECIATE POST ASSIS-
TANCE IN DEVELOPING LIST OF POTENTIAL CONTACTS AND SITES TO
BE VISITED. KISSINGER

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To: MASERU MBABANE
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